

Filed for intro on 03/30/95  
House Bill \_\_\_\_\_  
By \_\_\_\_\_

Senate No. SJR0150  
By Rochelle

A RESOLUTION to honor Clinton Gregory, rising country music star.

WHEREAS, Clinton Gregory is a rising young country music star, a multi-talented performer and a down-to-earth singer and person; and

WHEREAS, Clinton was born March 1, 1966, in Martinsville, Virginia and started playing the fiddle at age three, becoming the fifth generation of fiddle players in his family; and

WHEREAS, at a young age, he went on the road with his father, Willie Gregory, performing at numerous bluegrass festivals and "pig pickins" (pig roasts), and, at these events, he was often treated to post-show jam sessions featuring country music legends Bill Monroe, Ralph Stanley and Keith Whitley; and

WHEREAS, when Clinton was 12, his father entered a Lester Flatt-sponsored fiddle contest and won a trip to the Grand Ole Opry. The younger Gregory accompanied him and was awed to see his heroes Flatt, Marty Robbins and Roy Acuff; and

WHEREAS, he continued to hone his expert skills, winning several fiddle contests, moved to North Carolina and, at age 16, joined a square dance and country band. He started singing as a part of a trio with John and Audrey Wiggins and, in 1987, the group moved to Nashville; and

WHEREAS, as a result of his exceptional skill, he was chosen to play with the McCarter's and Suzy Boggus road bands and latter with a USO tour with Ricky Skaggs; and

WHEREAS, his first album *Music 'n' Me* debuted in 1990 and he gained his first national attention in 1991, with the release of his number 18 smash hit "If It Weren't For Country Music (I'd Go Crazy)", the title song from an album of the same name, which made him the first independent artist to land a Top 20 hit on the charts; and

WHEREAS, he has released three other highly regarded albums: *Free Born Man*, in 1993; *Master of Illusion* in 1994 and his latest *Clinton Gregory*, on Polydor Nashville Records in 1995; and

WHEREAS, *Clinton Gregory* contains the important single "The Gulf and the Shell" and "Hacksaw", an instrumental that showcases his tremendous musical ability; and

WHEREAS, in addition to work on this album, he has scheduled an incredible 200 tour dates this year; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause in our deliberations to recognize this gifted artist, who brings pleasure to all who listen to him; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor Clinton Gregory and wish him well in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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